WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for managing an investment portfolio, comprising:

determining a feasible loss in notional value of a contract sub-portfolio of said investment portfolio; and

determining a composition between said contract sub-portfolio and an asset sub-portfolio of said investment portfolio such that a value of said investment portfolio on a second date that is subsequent to a first date is no less than a highest marked-to-market value for said investment portfolio that occurred on or between said first date and said second date.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein said first date is an inception date of said investment portfolio, and said second date is a maturity date of said investment portfolio.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein said contract sub-portfolio comprises a futures contract.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein said contract sub-portfolio comprises a forward contract.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein said contract sub-portfolio comprises a swap agreement.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein said feasible loss in notional value of said contract sub-portfolio represents a probable maximum loss in notional value of said contract sub-portfolio.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein said asset sub-portfolio comprises a fixed income security.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein said asset sub-portfolio comprises a fixed income security and a derivative contract.

9. The method of claim 1,

wherein said determining said composition comprises determining a future value of said asset sub-portfolio for said second date, and

wherein said determined composition is such that said feasible loss in notional value of said contract sub-portfolio is less than or equal to a difference between said future value of said asset sub-portfolio and said highest marked-to-market value.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein said determining said composition employs a formula:

$$xE \leq Z(1+r)^m + K - HW$$

where:

E	=	a notional value of said contract sub-portfolio;
x	=	a fractional representation of said feasible loss in said notional value of said contract sub-portfolio;
Z	=	a value of a note or a bond in said asset sub-portfolio;
r	=	a yield to said second date for said note or said bond;
m	=	a number of years to said second date;
K	=	a value of a cash equivalent in said asset sub-portfolio;
HW	=	said highest marked-to-market value; and
Z+K	=	a current value of said asset sub-portfolio.

11. The method of claim 1, wherein said determining said feasible loss in notional value of said contract sub-portfolio and said determining said composition are performed periodically.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein said periodic performance has a period that corresponds to that of a periodic determination of said value for said investment portfolio.

13. An investment portfolio, comprising a value that is marked-to-market and may result in a loss, wherein said value on a second date that is subsequent to a first date is no less than a highest marked-to-market value for said investment portfolio that occurred on or between said first date and said second date.

14. The investment portfolio of claim 13, wherein said first date is an inception date of said investment portfolio, and said second date is a maturity date of said investment portfolio.

15. The investment portfolio of claim 13, wherein said investment portfolio is managed by a method that includes:

determining a feasible loss in notional value of a contract sub-portfolio of said investment portfolio;

determining a future value of an asset sub-portfolio of said investment portfolio for said second date; and

determining a composition between said contract sub-portfolio and said asset sub-portfolio such that said feasible loss in notional value of said contract sub-portfolio is less than or equal to a difference between said future value of said asset sub-portfolio and said highest marked-to-market value for said investment portfolio.

16. The investment portfolio of claim 15, wherein said determining a feasible loss, said determining said future value, and said determining said composition are performed periodically.

17. The investment portfolio of claim 16, wherein said periodic performance has a period that corresponds to that of a periodic determination of said value of said investment portfolio.

18. An open-end investment fund, comprising:

an interest that is continuously offered and has a value that is periodically marked-to-market and may result in a loss,

wherein said value, on a valuation date subsequent to a purchase date of said interest, will be no less than a purchase value of said interest.

19. The open-end investment fund of claim 18, wherein said open-end investment fund is managed by a method including:

determining a feasible loss in notional value of a contract sub-portfolio of an investment portfolio of said open-end investment fund; and

determining a composition between said contract sub-portfolio and an asset sub-portfolio of said investment portfolio such that a value of said investment portfolio on said valuation date is no less than a highest marked-to-market value of said investment portfolio that occurred on or between said purchase date and said valuation date.

20. The open-end investment fund of claim 18, wherein said open-end investment fund is managed by a method including:

determining a feasible loss in notional value of a contract sub-portfolio of an investment portfolio of said open-end investment fund;

determining a future value of an asset sub-portfolio of said investment portfolio for said valuation date; and

determining a composition between said contract sub-portfolio and said asset sub-portfolio such that said feasible loss in notional value of said contract sub-portfolio is less than or equal to a difference between said future value of said asset sub-portfolio and a highest marked-to-market value for said investment portfolio achieved since said purchase date.

21. An interest in an investment portfolio, comprising:
a value that is periodically marked-to-market and may result in a loss,
wherein said investment portfolio is managed by a method such that a value of said interest on a valuation date that is subsequent to a purchase date of said interest is greater than or equal to a highest marked-to-market value for said interest that occurred on or between said purchase date and said valuation date.

22. The interest of claim 21, wherein said method includes:
determining a feasible loss in notional value of a contract sub-portfolio of said investment portfolio; and
determining a composition between said contract sub-portfolio and an asset sub-portfolio of said investment portfolio such that a value of said investment portfolio on said valuation date is greater than or equal to a highest marked-to-market value of said investment portfolio that occurred on or between said purchase date and said valuation date.

23. The interest of claim 21,
wherein said investment portfolio includes a contract sub-portfolio and an asset sub-portfolio, and
wherein said method includes:
determining a feasible loss in notional value of said contract sub-portfolio;
determining a future value of said asset sub-portfolio for said valuation date; and
determining a composition between said contract sub-portfolio and said asset sub-portfolio such that said feasible loss in notional value of said contract sub-portfolio is less than or equal to a difference between said future value of said asset sub-portfolio and a highest marked-to-market value of said investment

portfolio that occurred on or between said purchase date and said valuation date.

24. A storage media containing instructions for controlling a processor to manage an investment portfolio, said storage media comprising:

instructions for controlling said processor to determine a feasible loss in notional value of a contract sub-portfolio of said investment portfolio; and

instructions for controlling said processor to determine a composition between said contract sub-portfolio and an asset sub-portfolio of said investment portfolio such that a value of said investment portfolio on a second date that is subsequent to a first date is no less than a highest marked-to-market value for said investment portfolio that occurred on or between said first date and said second date.